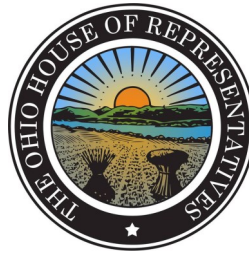


State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan

Ohio House District 14

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August 2025

Proudly serving Parma, Parma Heights, and Cleveland's Old Brooklyn, Brooklyn Centre, Clark-Fulton, & South Hills Neighborhoods!

Dear District 14 Resident:

In late June the General Assembly passed Ohio's 2026-2027 state operating budget—and I joined colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote no. As your representative, I believe budgets should reflect our *shared* values and should positively impact the quality of life of Ohio's nearly 12 million residents. Sadly, this one doesn't. Instead, it favors billionaires, corporate lobbyists, and private stadium owners, while shortchanging working families, public schools, senior citizens, and the most vulnerable among us.

One of the most troubling aspects is the shift to a flat income tax that overwhelmingly benefits the wealthiest Ohioans. It offers little relief to middle- and working-class families and puts our ability to fund schools, first responders, infrastructure, and health care at risk.

Even more egregious is the seizure of \$1.7 billion in unclaimed funds—money that rightfully belongs to Ohioans. Instead of returning it or investing it in essential services, \$1 billion will go toward private stadium and entertainment projects, including \$600 million for a new Cleveland Browns stadium. I know my constituents in Parma, Parma Heights, and Cleveland would rather see that money used for property tax relief, safer schools, better roads, and access to affordable health care—not luxury boxes for billionaire team owners.

This budget also weakens accountability by eliminating elected seats on the State Board of Education and reducing oversight of our public pension systems. And, it includes language that puts Medicaid expansion at risk, potentially harming hundreds of thousands of Ohioans, especially seniors and those with disabilities.

It's a budget that's fiscally reckless and morally wrong. I'll keep fighting for a more responsible and compassionate approach—one that invests in our communities and puts working Ohioans first.

I pray that the hard work I do everyday is evidence of how much I deeply care about you and all of my constituents. One of my biggest fears as your state representative is that folks who don't know me that well will paint me as "*just another politician*." I will continually work diligently to earn your faith and trust by conducting myself as a statesman and servant leader.

As always, I welcome your calls and emails, if my office may ever be of assistance. Best wishes during this last full month of summer. See you out in the district.

Sincerely,

Sean Patrick Brennan

State Representative, District 14

77 South High Street

Columbus, Ohio 43215

ohiohouse.gov/members/sean-p-brennan



Cuts to Medicaid affects our friends, neighbors, and family members. Here I am in Parma talking to two constituents who are worried about how the cuts will impact their lives. Having lived on the edge myself, I feel their fear. Rest assured that I deeply care and will continue to be a voice for you at the Ohio Statehouse!



State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Votes NO to Override Governor's Veto

COLUMBUS – **State Rep. Sean Patrick Brennan (D-Parma)** issued the following statement after voting ‘NO’ on a provision that was previously vetoed by **Governor Mike DeWine** and revived by the legislature despite bipartisan concerns:

“Ohioans need real property tax relief now—relief that actually helps middle- and working-class families, not policies that benefit the wealthiest few while decimating funding for public schools and local services,” said **Rep. Brennan**. “That’s why I voted ‘NO’ on this proposal. This override doesn’t fix the problem—it makes it worse.”

The provision in question would have:

Restricted how local governments and school districts can place levies on the ballot, reducing flexibility and forcing communities to return to the ballot more often or cut vital services (Governor’s Item 66).

“This isn’t property tax relief—it’s a political shell game,” said **Rep. Brennan**. “Even **Governor DeWine**, a member of the majority party, vetoed this provision for good reason. The proposal doesn’t lower taxes in any meaningful way for most Ohioans. Instead, it strips local control, punishes public schools and first responders, and threatens essential services—all while letting the state legislature dodge its responsibility to fund real, sustainable relief.”

Rep. Brennan pointed specifically to the devastating impact on his own community in the biennial budget:

“The Parma City School District, which serves the families and students of House District 14, stands to lose over \$2.5 million as a direct result of these misguided provisions in the budget. That’s money for classrooms, teachers, and vital student services that will simply disappear—all for a plan that gives the most benefit to those who need it least,” continued **Rep. Brennan**.

Many school districts will not see a dime in relief from the overridden provision, and in communities that would be affected, the tradeoff could be devastating.

“We cannot solve Ohio’s property tax crisis by passing the buck to school districts and municipalities that are already stretched thin,” said **Rep. Brennan**. “Voters deserve the right to decide what kind of communities they want to live in. This provision would undermine their voice and weaken their schools and services.”

Rep. Brennan also underscored his support for proposals that would provide true, immediate relief, including:

- Expanding the Homestead Exemption for Ohio’s seniors;
- A \$1,000 property tax rebate for families hit hardest by recent increases; and
- Reinstating and strengthening state-funded property tax relief programs that were gutted in recent years.

“I am ready to work across the aisle on solutions that put Ohio homeowners first,” concluded **Rep. Brennan**. “But I will not support hollow gestures that hurt our communities and leave most families behind.”



The 2026-2027 state operating budget will result in fewer dollars to local governments (cities, schools, libraries, etc.). This translates into making it more challenging to fund essential services, including our local police departments.



Recently, I stopped by our local Ohio State Highway Patrol post to thank these fine men and women for their great work and to provide them with some snacks. One of their jobs is keeping legislators like me safe everyday. A tip of the District 14 hat to these fine public servants! Incidentally, if you are looking for a great career, they are hiring! Learn more here:

statepatrol.ohio.gov/recruitment-and-training/recruitment

A Farewell to My Friend and Brother in Spirit

Since 2011, I've had the honor of contributing a monthly column to the *Parma Observer* — a publication that, to me, has always been more than just a newspaper. Long before I wrote my first piece, I admired its mission: to foster civic engagement, amplify local voices, and celebrate the spirit of our community. That mission came to life through the tireless work and passion of its founder and editor, Dan McCarthy.

Dan wasn't just the driving force behind the *Observer* — he was its heart. Over the years, our working relationship evolved into something deeper: a true friendship and, for me, a bond like brotherhood. I never had a brother, but Dan filled that role in many ways. His recent passing has been a profound personal loss, and even now, it's hard to fully grasp that he's gone.



Dan was a rare combination of intellect, integrity, and dedication. He was a walking encyclopedia — deeply knowledgeable, endlessly curious, and always willing to share his insights. Whether we were talking about government policy or an odd historical fact about Parma or Cleveland, Dan's wisdom made every conversation better. I could always count on him — especially during long late-night drives back from Columbus, when he would keep me company on the phone all the way home to Parma.

What set Dan apart was his unwavering love for our city and region. He lived and breathed Parma and Cleveland. He was an “idea guy” who believed in taking action — founding the *Parma Observer*, attending city council meetings, supporting the arts, and uplifting voices that too often go unheard. Dan didn't just talk about being a good citizen — he lived it.

Born and raised in Parma, Dan spent all of his 64 years investing in the place he called home. He found joy in the simple things: walking his dogs, biking, reading, listening to jazz and blues, and researching local history and genealogy. He received well-earned recognition for his contributions, including being named *Parma Citizen of the Month* and honored by the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce.

As publisher, editor, advertiser, delivery driver, and even photographer, Dan did it all. He was a fixture at community events and a friend to so many. Even in death, Dan's generosity endures — he was an organ donor, giving others the gift of life.

Dan McCarthy was one of a kind — a true original who believed in Parma and in people. His legacy will live on in the pages of the *Parma Observer*, in the countless lives he touched, and in the community he helped build.

Rest in peace, my dear friend. You will never be forgotten.



Here I am with my Parma Independence Day parade marching group posing at the script Parma sign. What a beautiful day it was and the crowd was larger than I can recall in the over 20 years I have marched in the parade. This spot has special meaning to me since I raised the funds from local residents and businesses to design, purchase, and donate the sign to the city of Parma when I served as President of Parma City Council. Thank you to my crew and to everyone who came out to wave, say hello, and grab some candy with the kids!

State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan Prides Himself on Being an Accessible Public Servant



Counterclockwise: 1 - Congratulating Parma Heights Lt. Steven Vachon on his recent promotion, 2 - Enjoyed coffee while talking about state and local government issues with Parma Heights Councilwoman Stephanie Palmisano at Gina's Gelato & Java, 3 - Thanking the Cuyahoga Community College Dental Hygiene Program members at the Old Brooklyn Farmers Market, 4 - Enjoying coffee and conversation with new Parma City School District Superintendent Scott Hunt, 5 & 6 - Taking popsicles to two of the three baseball teams I am sponsoring this summer at Parma's Ries Park and Veterans Memorial Park, 7 - Thanking one of our Vietnam War veterans at a recent event at the VA Hospital in Parma, 8 - Burning the midnight oil in my office on a Sunday evening in July, 9 - Meeting with representatives at the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging to talk about how we can improve serving our senior citizens, 10 - Stopping by the Cleveland American Middle Eastern Organization (C.A.M.E.O.) picnic to say hello to their leader Pierre Bejjani and their many fine members, 11 - Enjoying a cold treat at the new Astro Bros. Ice Cream & Coffee at the Shoppes at Parma with young entrepreneur Omar, the owner.

